



Peace Presbyterian Church - Elkhorn, Nebraska

March 2020



Dear Friends and Members of Peace Church,

Last fall, the Session made the commitment for Peace Church to be a part of the **Matthew 25 Initiative** of the PC(USA). During the first seven weeks of 2020, we listened to parts of the Matthew 25:31-46 passage read and preached to us to understand more about what it means to be Christ's disciples and the church in the 21st century in our community.

How did the Matthew 25 vision come about?

The 222nd and 223rd General Assemblies (2016 and 2018) challenged the PC(USA) to embrace Jesus' call in Matthew 25:31-46 to take our living faith into our communities and the world. As a Matthew 25 church, we are called to live out true discipleship by acting boldly, compassionately and fearlessly serving people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor. We joyfully share this vision and invitation with you!

What exactly did we have to do to become a Matthew 25 congregation or mid council?

We signed up and sent our signed covenant to the denomination headquarters. Now we are asked to embrace one or more of the three areas of focus — building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism and eradicating systemic poverty. We choose to embrace the first one for now: building congregational vitality. As we live out our commitment, we are asked to share the story of impact that our pledge has made: how your congregation has changed, how you've discovered new passions and vitality, how your members have been re-energized as disciples ...so like in the early church, your renewed faith will fan the flames and encourage other congregations to also embrace our common mission.

What is congregational vitality all about?

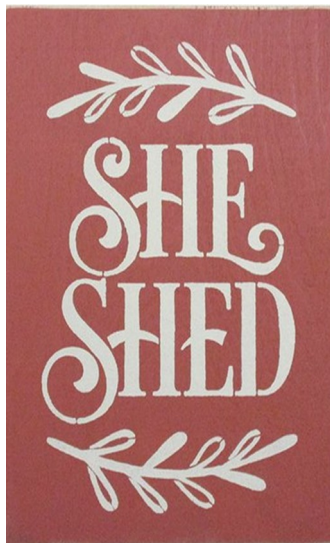
Vitality isn't a number. It's not about how many members you have, or how large your budget is, or even how many baptisms you celebrate each year. Rather, it's a mindset and commitment to re-energize and live out your church's faith in your community and the world. Vitality is a passion for following Jesus — growing in faith and discipleship, embracing people beyond your church walls, working for justice and reconciliation, and serving your neighbors in need. It's a way of life that sees with Christ's eyes and uses your collective gifts to really make a difference. Of course, every community is different and faces its own challenges. Growing in vitality always requires prayer and discernment to figure out how you are called.

We believe that "Where Christ is, there is the true Church" (F-1.0303, Book of Order). Matthew 25 shows us that Christ is with people who are hungry, thirsty, strangers, naked, sick, or in prison. If we wish to serve Christ, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) must be with these same people in our witness, work, and worship. In this mission we encounter Christ, the life of the world, and congregations find true vitality.

We are not just "labeling" our church. We are discerning God's new vision for our life together through this initiative and through God's Word to us. May we always be and keep becoming a vital life-force in Christ for our community and the world. We can do this by God's grace and through the faithfulness of this church, it's ministries and all of Christ's followers here at Peace who are loving and serving the "least of these" and the "one another's" every day.

In Christ's service,
Pastor Bonnie





Be here for the First Gathering!
Thursday March 12, 6:30pm
Fellowship Hall

All women of Peace are invited to bring your own beverage and join the fun and fellowship!

RSVP to Erica Wagner
402-630-5123 or ericawags@gmail.com

BEST WISHES ON YOUR SPECIAL DAY!

ANNIVERSARY: Mar 2 Pete & Lu Hill; Mar 19 George & Elaine McIntosh

BIRTHDAY: Mar 1 Steve Brosz, Julia King, Nate King; 8 Cale Bartunek; 9 Monika Gross
12 Ruth Dunavant; 13 Jack Zaner; 14 Richard Johaneck; 15 Tenley Bohaboj, Mike Nelson
16 Rick King, Scot Thompson; 17 Thomas Nelson; 18 JoAn Ferguson; 20 Sara Kluver
21 Jim Carter; 24 Elaine McIntosh; 25 Maddox Wentworth; 26 Matthew Klug, Calvin Thompson
28 Caleb Dreibelbis; 31 Anisia King, Dan O'Connell



Thankyou, Peace Family and Friends for your great support of the Souper Bowl 2020! The donations will go to support our Youth Summer Mission Trip to Memphis, TN.



The next **Man Cave** gathering will be Thursday, March 19, 6:30pm, in Fellowship Hall. RSVP for dinner by March 15 to Dave Fulton at david.fulton@FDIConsulting.inc. Everyone is asked to bring a side dish and your own beverage. All men are invited! Bring a friend along! Hope to see you there!



"I wish to thank my Peace Family for all the thoughts, prayers, cards and words of comfort during the last weeks and since the death of my mother, LeOra Wells. Also, a big thank you to the ladies that brought food to my home after her passing. It is so comforting to have such friends as you. God bless each and every one."

Sharon Bossman

Presbyterian Women Hold Cereal Drive for The Open Door Mission

The Presbyterian Women are holding a Cereal Drive for the Open Door Mission now through Easter. Everyone is invited to donate any boxed or bagged cereals. Please leave items by the display in the foyer.

So far 61 boxes have already been delivered to ODM for use. More are coming in and we are grateful!

The Open Door Mission serves over 3,500 meals every day. Cereal is an item they always welcome as a breakfast food and for snacks.

Your donation is greatly appreciated! See Joan Ferguson, Carol Huffman or Liz Baker with questions or suggestions.

Liz Baker, PW Mission Chairperson



Baked Potato Bar Fundraiser

**Sunday March 8
11:15am
Fellowship Hall.**

All proceeds will go to support the youth summer mission trip to Memphis, Tennessee June 21-27. A free-will offering will be received.

FROM OUR CHURCH TREASURER

**PEACE
CHURCH
PER CAPITA
APPORTIONMENT**

Total Due
\$9238.45
Total Received
80.00

Total Due
\$9238.45
9,000.00
8,000.00
7,000.00
6,000.00
5,000.00
4,000.00
3,000.00
2,000.00
1,000.00
80.00



**"We're No Bob Ross"
Sunday, March 1
11:15am
Fellowship Hall**

Everyone is invited to help complete this collaborative art object for the church.

ALL-CHURCH FELLOWSHIPS

**PURPLE
POWER!**

Family Event

Come celebrate with friends and fun!

**Friday, March 6
6:00pm
Fellowship Hall
Hosted by the
Christian Ed. Dept.**

Back in October we gave you information about "Per Capita" expenses for Peace Church and we wanted to give you an update on the 2020 totals.

Our apportionment for this year is about \$40 per member. You can still make your payments to reduce the amount that is expected to be paid by Peace. The total received is \$80.00 as of Feb. 25. We are grateful to those who have been able to give beyond their amount to help cover the cost for others. We continue to encourage your engagement with this process if you haven't done so

Mary McArdle
Church Treasurer

Coming in 2020

June 11,12,13 Church Garage Sale
June 21-27 Youth Mission Trip

MARCH CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

DATE	TIME	EVENT/LOCATION	CONTACT
Mar 1	8:40am	Youth Praise Team, Sanctuary	Scot Thompson
	9:00am	Sunday School	Matt Marshall
	9:30am	1st Sunday Choir Practice. Sanctuary	Scot Thompson
	10:15am	Worship, Communion	Rev. Wilkins
	11:15am	Bob Ross Event, Fellowship Hall	Matt Marshall
Mar 2	6:30pm	Cub Scouts	Bernie Baker
Mar 4	9:30am	PW Meeting; Fellowship Hall	J Ferguson, C Huffman
	7:00pm	Choir Practice, Sanctuary	Scot Thompson
Mar 6	6:00pm	<i>Purple Power Family Event</i> , Fellowship Hall	Matt Marshall
Mar 7	7:00am	Men of Peace Serve Breakfast at Hope Lodge	Tom Wagner
Mar 8	8:40am	Youth Praise Team, Sanctuary	Scot Thompson
	9:00am	Sunday School	Matt Marshall
	10:15am	Worship, Sanctuary	Rev. Wilkins
	11:15am	Cookie Sunday Fellowship, Fellowship Hall	Deacons
	11:15am	Baked Potato Fundraiser, Fellowship Hall	Jane King
	11:30am	Confirmation Class, CE Office	Rev. Wilkins
Mar 9	6:30pm	Cub Scouts, Basement/Fellowship Hall	Bernie Baker
Mar 10	10:45am	Service at Grand Reserve, Everyone Invited	Rev. Wilkins
Mar 11	12:00pm	Retiree Potluck Lunch, Library	Office
	7:00pm	Adult Choir Practice, Sanctuary	Scott Thompson
Mar 12	6:30pm	She Shed, Fellowship Hall	Erica Wagner
Mar 15	8:30am	Youth Praise Team, Sanctuary	Scot Thompson
	9:00am	Sunday School	Matt Marshall
	9:30am	Chancel Choir Practice, Sanctuary	Scot Thompson
	10:15am	Worship, Sanctuary	Rev. Wilkins
	6:30pm	Session Meeting, Library	Rev. Wilkins
Mar 16	6:30pm	Cub Scouts, FH, Basement	Bernie Baker
Mar 18	7:00pm	Adult Choir Practice, Sanctuary	Scot Thompson
Mar 19	6:30pm	Man Cave, Fellowship Hall	Dave Fulton
Mar 20	6:00pm	Pickle Ball Fellowship, Fellowship Hall	Matt Marshall
Mar 22	8:40am	Youth Praise Team, Sanctuary	Scot Thompson
	9:00am	Sunday School	Matt Marshall
	10:15am	Worship, Sanctuary	Rev. Wilkins
	5:00pm	Crossroads Connection	Dave Fulton
	6:30pm	Cub Scouts, Fellowship Hall & Basement	Bernie Baker
Mar 23	6:30pm	Cub Scouts, Fellowship Hall & Basement	Bernie Baker
Mar 25	7:00pm	Adult Choir Practice, Sanctuary	Scot Thompson
Mar 28	1:00pm	Peaceful Quilters, Quilter's Room	Nancy Haack
Mar 29	8:40am	Youth Praise Team, Sanctuary	Scot Thompson
	9:00am	Sunday School	Matt Marshall
	10:15am	Worship, Sanctuary	Rev. Wilkins
	11:30am	Confirmation Class, CE Office	Rev. Wilkins
	4:00pm	Youth Sonrise Service Practice, Sanctuary	Jane King
Mar 30	6:30pm	Cub Scouts, Fellowship Hall & Basement	Bernie Baker



Peace Mission Statement
 We seek to deepen our commitment to God through Jesus Christ with meaningful worship experiences, education, mission, and to welcome all who want to know and learn about God and the Church.

